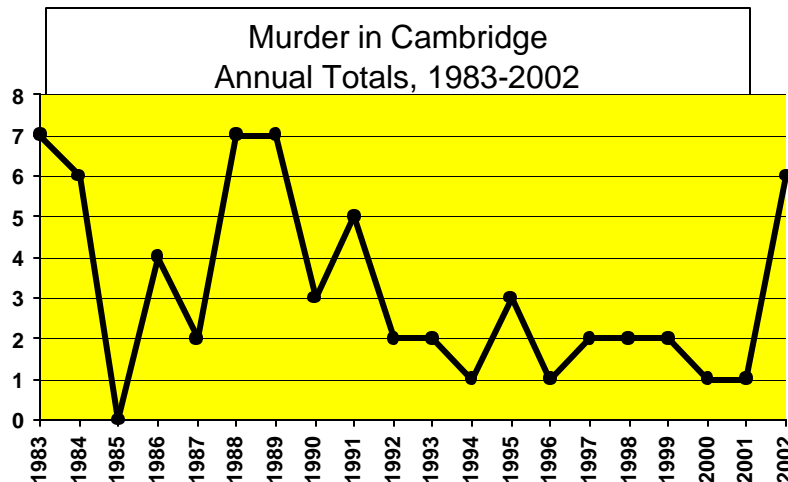


# MURDER

*Murder and Non-negligent Manslaughter, as defined in the Uniform Crime Reporting Program, is the willful (non-negligent) killing of one human being by another. The classification of this offense, as for all other Crime Index Offenses, is based solely on police investigation, as opposed to the determination of a court, medical examiner, coroner, jury, or other judicial body. Not included in the count for this offense classification are deaths caused by negligence, suicide, or accident; justifiable homicides; and attempts to murder or assaults with the intent to murder, which are scored as aggravated assaults.*

**Five reported in the first half of 2002 · Two reported in the first half of 2003**



THE first murder of the year in Cambridge occurred in the early morning hours of Saturday, April 12th, 2003. Alexander Pring-Wilson, a 25-year-old Harvard University graduate student, was arrested for the stabbing death of Michael Colono, an 18-year-old Cambridgeport resident. The incident involved the escalation of a verbal exchange into a street fight in front of the Pizza Ring at the intersection of Western Avenue and Jay Street. On Tuesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>, Pring-Wilson was released on \$400,000 cash bail with restrictions. This case is awaiting trial.

AN afternoon shooting in early June marked the second homicide of 2003 for the City of Cambridge. Officers responded to the parking lot of Kentucky Fried Chicken located on Mass Ave. just past Porter Square to find the victim, Robert Scott, lying face down from bullet wounds to the back. Multiple witnesses stated that Scott and his girlfriend were waiting for the bus when the suspect came up to them and began firing at Scott, which eventually led to his death. Thanks to willing witnesses, Markendy Jean of Malden was identified as the prime suspect responsible for this homicide. Warrants were issued for Jean and after it was discovered that he had fled to Northern Florida, surveillance was set up. Due to the combined efforts of the Middlesex District Attorney's Office, Cambridge Police Department and Massachusetts State Police, along with the cooperation of the Metro-Dade and North Miami Police Department, Jean turned himself over to the authorities in the early morning hours of July 3, 2002. Jean is currently in police custody and awaiting trial.

# RAPE

*Forcible Rape, as defined by the Uniform Crime Reporting Program is the carnal knowledge of a female forcibly and against her will. Attempts to commit rape by force or threat of force, and assaults with the intent to commit rape, are also included; however, statutory rape (without force) and other sex offenses are excluded.*

**5 reported in the first half of 2002 · 3 reported in the first half of 2003**

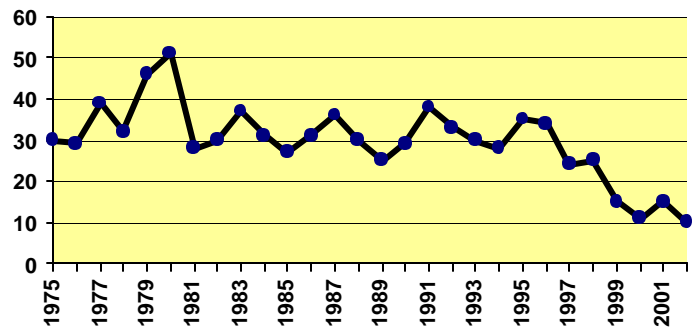
There were two less rapes reported during the second quarter of 2003 than reported in 2002.

The three rapes that occurred so far in 2003 were classified as 'contact' rapes, which are defined as a stranger rape in which the suspect contacts the victim and tries to gain his/her confidence before assaulting

him/her. Contact rapists usually pick up their victims in bars, lure them into their cars or houses, or otherwise try to coerce the victim into a situation in which they can begin their assault.

The first rape occurred in early January when a female was at a bar in Boston with some friends. While at the bar, something may have been placed in her drink. The female later awoke at an unknown apartment in Cambridge with no clothes on. This case is under active investigation. The second rape occurred in early June and involved a situation very similar to the January rape. The most recent rape occurred in late June when two females were at a party in Cambridge where they met a group of males who later sexually assaulted them.

**Rape in Cambridge  
Annual Totals, 1975-2002**



# ROBBERY

*Robbery is the taking or attempted taking of anything of value from the care, custody, or control of a person or persons by force or threat of force or violence and/or by putting the victim in fear. This crime includes muggings, purse snatchings, and bank hold-ups.*

## 79 reported in the first half of 2002 · 112 reported in the first half of 2003

An overall increase of 42% was registered during the first half of 2003, which nearly replicates the 44% increase that the first three months of this year experienced. The increase this quarter was fueled by the high total of street robberies reported in the first quarter and a series of 'mini-sprees' reported in areas such as Harvard and Central Squares during the second quarter. Twenty-one street

robberies were reported in March, making it the busiest month. Fifty-five street robberies total were reported during the first quarter of 2003. This is the highest total of street robberies that Cambridge has recorded since the first three months of 1998, when there were 56 street robberies.

Type	2nd Q. 2002	2nd Q. 2003	% Change
Commercial Robbery	17	23	+35%
Street Robbery	62	89	+44%
<b>Total</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>+42%</b>

## COMMERCIAL ROBBERY

Bank robberies have caused the number of commercial robberies to increase citywide. The last bank robbery was in mid-March, marking the ninth robbery of this kind in 2003. Of these twenty-three commercial robberies, ten took place at banks throughout Cambridge. This epidemic plagued the majority of the Greater Boston Metro region, and typically consisted of 'note-passers' where a note was passed from the perpetrator to the bank teller demanding cash in lieu of physical harm. The remaining thirteen commercial robberies in the City occurred at various locations such as a drug store, gas station, and miscellaneous retail locations.

Over the past three months, East Cambridge, Kendall Square, and Porter Square each reported the most activity with two robberies each. The first of the two robberies in East Cambridge transpired in late May when a confident culprit walked into Hedin Furniture, demanding money out of

Geographic Breakdown of Commercial Robberies		
Business Districts	2 <sup>nd</sup> Q. 2002	2 <sup>nd</sup> Q. 2003
Galleria/East Cambridge	5	3
Kendall Square/MIT	1	4
Inman Square	1	2
Central Square	2	4
Cambridgeport/Riverside	0	0
Bay Square/Upper B.way	1	0
Harvard Square	2	1
1500-1900 Mass. Ave.	2	3
Porter Square	1	3
Alewife/West Cambridge	2	3

the safe. After finding an empty safe, the suspect took a small amount of cash from the register and fled. This case is still under active investigation, as it is suspected that this same perpetrator has robbed the premises in the past. The next robbery occurred almost a month later at a gas station on Monsignor O'Brien Highway after a masked gunman demanded the money out of the register and walked away with cash, leaving the employee unharmed.

The first robbery in the Kendall/MIT business district was the only bank robbery since the first quarter of 2003. This robbery involved a note-passer who threatened bodily harm with a firearm that was never shown and walked away with an unknown amount of cash. The second robbery transpired in late June after two glove-wearing suspects forced their way into a booth at a parking garage, displayed a firearm, and stole money from the register as well as the attendant's wallet.

One of the two robberies in Porter Sq. resulted in an arrest after a Maynard man came into the CVS asking to use the phone and then turned on the employees with a knife. This man attempted to physically hold an employee in order to get what he wanted, but before the demands were made, the employee broke free, without incident, and the man was arrested.

## STREET ROBBERY

Thirty-nine of the eighty-nine street robberies occurred over the past three months, between March and June. One would normally expect the number of street robberies to increase during the warmer months, but when compared to the first three months of 2003, this crime dropped by 22%. Eight of the thirteen neighborhoods experienced increases while the remaining five either stayed the same or decreased. Of the neighborhoods that experienced an increase, Cambridgeport and North Cambridge more than doubled during the second quarter. When compared to the second quarter of 2002, this crime experienced an increase, which has not been this high since 1998.

A cluster of robberies occurred on the section of Mass. Ave. bordering the Area 4 and Cambridgeport neighborhoods. Four robberies were reported on this section of Mass Ave. during the past three months and an additional three robberies were reported on streets within a block radius from this section. Of these seven robberies, three involved the threat of a knife, one the threat of a firearm and the remaining three were completed through strong-arm tactics. Due, in part, to the difficulty in reporting suspect descriptions from night robberies, only one arrest was carried out in this area.

Of the five robberies in North Cambridge, only one involved the use of a weapon. As a juvenile victim was exiting a convenience store on Mass Ave., the teenage male suspect asked the victim to take a walk with him. The victim declined and the suspect produced a knife, demanding the victim's cash, which was handed over without incident. The remaining five robberies in this area were unrelated and most often involved teenaged suspects in mixed-race male groups who would rob their unsuspecting victims for a quick thrill. In one scenario, a group of 10-12 teenaged males 'jumped' two other teenaged victims on a street off of Rindge Ave. The suspects punched and kicked their victims and then robbed them of various items such as cash, cell phones, and keys.

Of the eighty-nine street robberies reported during the second quarter of 2003, here is a quick recap of the events:

- Six robberies were classified as **acquaintance** situations where the victim knew his assailant, such as a friend, co-worker, or drinking buddy. Situations like these commonly involve people who know when someone else has money and use strong-arm tactics to rob the victim of their cash, etc.
- Two incidents of **bully boy** robberies were reported, which typically consist of school-aged youths who rob each other. The first robbery of this nature transpired in early March when two CRLS students robbed their

Geographic Breakdown of Street Robberies in Cambridge			
Neighborhood	2 <sup>nd</sup> Q. 2001	2 <sup>nd</sup> Q. 2002	2 <sup>nd</sup> Q. 2003
East Cambridge	9	7	5
MIT	1	0	0
Inman/Harrington	3	6	6
Area 4	11	14	16
Cambridgeport	11	7	19
Mid-Cambridge	5	5	7
Riverside	4	5	9
Agassiz	1	1	2
Peabody	2	1	7
West Cambridge	2	10	4
North Cambridge	3	4	11
Cambridge Highlands	0	1	1
Strawberry Hill	0	1	2

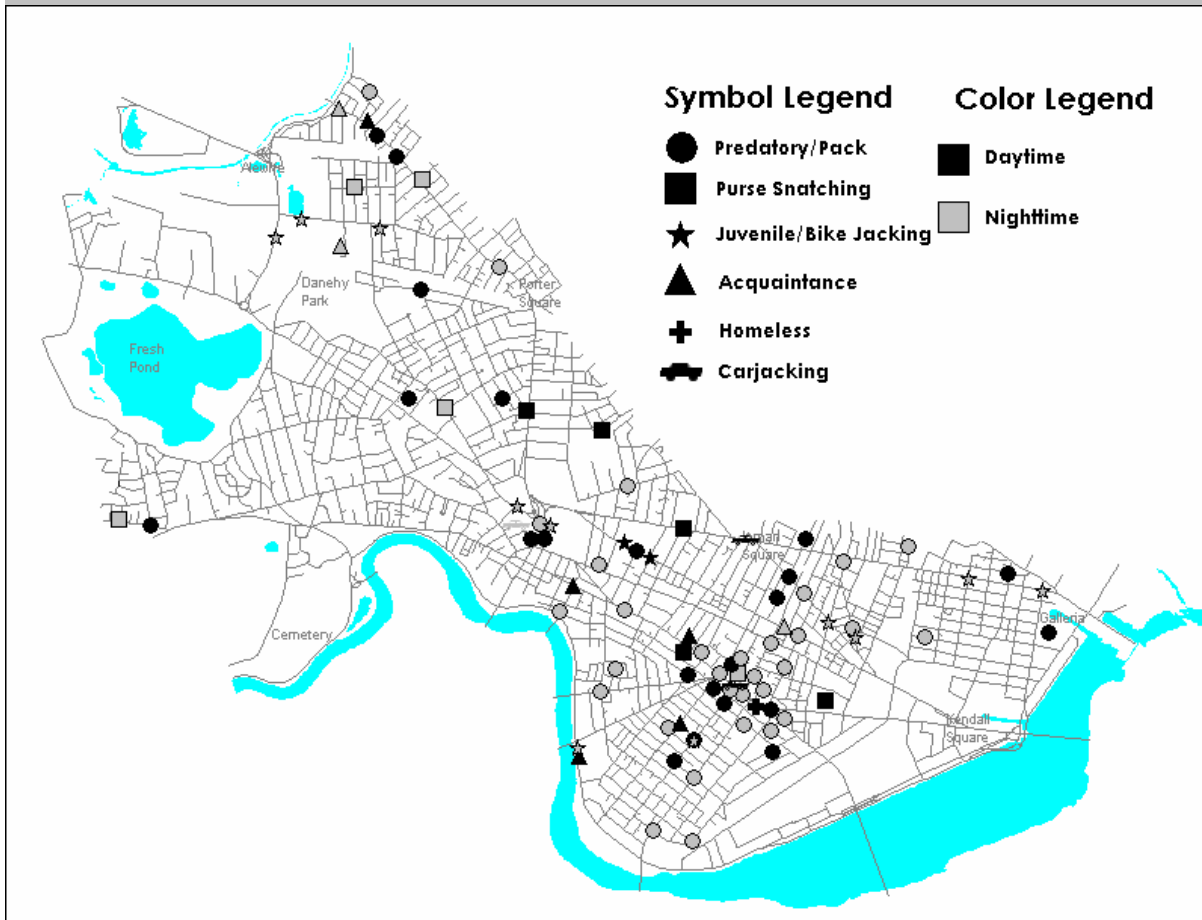
victim, a fellow classmate, of cash by placing a knife to the victim's stomach and punching him in the face. The second robbery resulted in an arrest after two teenaged youths approached their victim on the tennis court at CRLS and demanded money so that they could purchase marijuana. When the victim refused, one culprit produced a knife and threatened to stab and beat the victim if he did not comply.

- Three **carjackings** were reported in the second quarter of 2003. In a carjacking scenario, a lone predator will approach a victim entering or exiting their car, or when stopped at a traffic light. What the victim demands from that point on can range from the car keys to money, or even as far as demanding that the victim drive the assailant to a specific location. The latter was the case in one of the robberies in mid-March when two victims were sitting in their car in Harvard Square as three suspects came up to the car window and placed a gun to the driver's head. The assailants demanded that the two victims go to a back alley, where the perpetrators emptied their pockets. Of the three reported incidents, one arrest was executed in January after four men robbed two other men as they entered their car in Central Square. In this incident, the four males used a firearm as a threatening measure to gain access to the car and once inside, the assailants took cash from the victims and gave their wallets back. The victims were later able to positively identify the suspects. Coincidentally, all of these carjackings occurred on the weekend, exactly one month apart from each other.
- Two **domestic** robberies were reported, both of which took place after an argument between a couple in a dating relationship.
- One **homeless** robbery took place after a wheelchair-bound person gave his friend money to hold for him and two other homeless persons came up and assaulted the man and took the money.
- Three of the eleven **pack robberies** resulted in arrests. Typically these situations play out after a group of young males use strong-arm tactics to relieve the victim of his/her money. Three of these robberies involved the use or threat of a knife, while the remaining eight involved physical force.
- Fifty-four **predatory** robberies were reported during the first three months of the year, in which one or two offenders 'mugged' their victim with a weapon or the threat of one. Of the total fifty-four robberies, twenty-two were classified as *professional*, indicating that the robber(s) were collected, efficient, and effective. The remaining thirty-two robberies were deemed *crude*, meaning that the robber(s) were edgy, unprepared, and unpredictable, and in turn, not always successful. A string of these robberies occurred in and around Central Square in March, where similar suspect descriptions were reported. Of the seven predatory robberies in March, two incidents yielded the arrests of three Cambridge youths.
- The most classic robbery is a **purse snatching**, which accounted for ten of the City's robberies during the second quarter. In this scenario, the robber typically approaches his female victim from behind and grabs her purse. In the majority of these incidents, the robber was unprofessional in nature and caught off guard when the female victims put up a struggle. Three of the ten situations were successful and the suspect fled with the suspects' purse.

#### Notable Arrests:

- The week before Valentine's Day, two street robberies occurred in the Peabody neighborhood involving two victims walking alone in the early evening. Both victims were stabbed. The suspect descriptions were identical in the two robberies. In response, undercover patrols set up surveillance and saturated the area in an effort to catch the suspects. These efforts turned out to be successful. On February 16<sup>th</sup>, a Somerville man and a youth from Malden were arrested for a housebreak. The two offenders were carrying weapons similar to the ones described in the street robberies. The youth was subsequently identified as the robber.
- One hour prior to the housebreak arrest described above, the patrol division was making another major apprehension. Four suspects, all Area 4 residents, were arrested for robbing a pair of Central Square shoppers entering their vehicle on Pearl Street. The Investigations Unit is working to link this quartet of offenders to as many as eight other robberies committed in the area.
- The arrest of three Boston individuals by undercover officers on the night of June 7<sup>th</sup> eliminated a late-night street robbery pattern that was beginning to emerge in Cambridgeport at the time.

## Street Robberies Reported in Cambridge Between January 1, 2003 and June 30, 2003



# ASSAULT

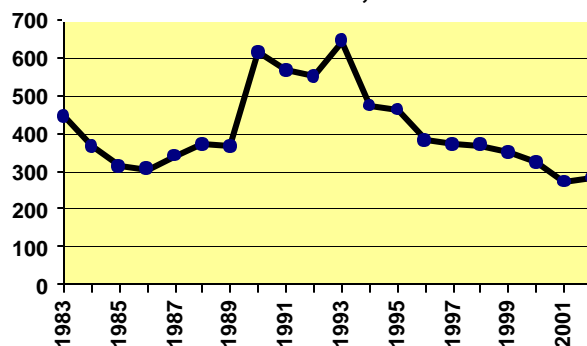
Aggravated Assault describes an unlawful attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe or aggravated bodily injury. This type of assault is usually accompanied by the use of a weapon or by means likely to produce death or great bodily harm. Attempts are included since it is not necessary that injury result when a gun, knife, or other weapon is used which could and probably would result in serious personal injury if the crime were successfully completed.

**157 reported in the first half of 2002 · 114 reported in the first half of 2003**

The number of aggravated assaults dropped by forty- three incidents, registering a 27% decrease. Of the one hundred and fourteen assaults reported, almost half have resulted in arrests. In most of the incidents, the offender and victim did not know each other. In seventeen of the incidents, the victim and the offender were romantic partners. These two relationship types comprised almost half of all of the incidents reported thus far in 2003. The most common weapon that was used during the assaults was hands and feet. Weapons were responsible for the remaining assaults, ranging from a handgun to a belt.

One of the most notable assaults that occurred during the second quarter took place late in the night on June 4<sup>th</sup>, outside of Riverside Pizza on River Street. The victim was called outside of the bar where he was met by an ambush of bullets, sending him to the hospital. The victim, who still remains in the hospital, was able to positively ID the shooter, and the arrest of a 32-year-old Cambridge man was executed almost two weeks after the initial gunfire. Just a few days later, another shooting occurred in the Riverside neighborhood. This incident occurred at the intersection of Magee Street and Putnam Avenue. The victim had been shot four times, but was still able to drive himself to the hospital. No suspects have been identified. This case is still under active investigation.

**Aggravated Assault in Cambridge  
Annual Totals, 1983-2002**



### Relationships

Another way to look at aggravated assaults is to classify the relationship between the offender and the victim

Relationship	Total	%
Stranger or Unknown	35	31%
Romantic Partner	17	15%
Misc. Acquaintance	17	15%
Parent/Child	11	10%
Spouse	7	6%
Co-Worker/Employee	6	5%
Schoolmate	5	4%
Ex-Romantic Partner	5	4%
Third Lover	3	3%
Neighbor	2	2%
Sibling	2	2%
Neighbor	2	2%
Roommate	1	.5%
Landlord/Tenant	1	.5%

Of the fifty-five arrests, thirty-three involved incidents that were domestic in nature or involved victims and offenders who were acquaintances in some capacity. Six arrests stemmed from incidents at local bars where the parties involved had consumed alcohol prior to the assault. Four of the arrests were the result of assaults on police officers and three of the arrests were the result of unprovoked assaults. The remaining nine arrests were classified as resulting from traffic/parking disputes, landlord/neighbor issues, workplace disagreements, and juvenile altercations.

### Weapons

The following is a list of the various weapons and the number of times they were used

Hands/Feet – 56	Knife – 16
Bottle/Glass - 9	Household Items – 6
Handgun – 7	Automobile – 5
Bar/Bat/Club – 4	BB Gun – 2
Other - 9	

# LARCENY

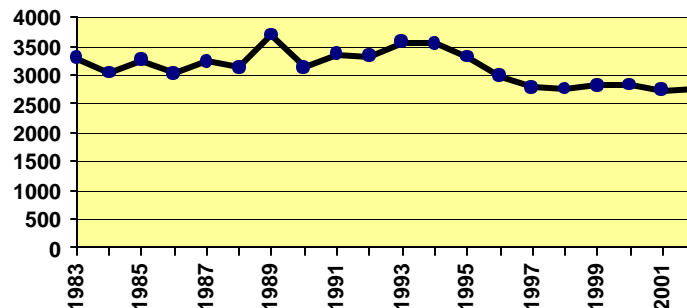
*Larceny is the unlawful taking, carrying, leading, or riding away of property from the possession of another. It includes crimes such as shoplifting, pocket-picking, thefts from motor vehicles, thefts of auto parts and accessories, horse thefts, and bicycle thefts, in which no use of force, violence, fraud, or trespass occurs. In the Uniform Crime Reporting Program, this crime category does not include embezzlement, "con" games, forgery, and worthless checks. Motor vehicle theft is also excluded from this category, as it is a separate crime index offense.*

**1298 reported in the first half of 2002 · 1156 reported in the first half of 2003**

The total number of larcenies continued to decline in the second quarter of 2003. The gap between the 2002 and 2003 totals has closed in, however the overall total remains lower than normal. Larcenies from motor vehicles in particular have increased dramatically from the first quarter of this year, however the total remains at a normal level for this crime. Other subcategories such as larcenies of bicycles and shoplifting have decreased dramatically, contributing to the overall decrease in the larceny total.

Type	2 <sup>nd</sup> Q. 2002	2 <sup>nd</sup> Q. 2003
Larceny from a Building	268	281
Larceny from Motor Vehicle	269	318
Larceny of a Bicycle	112	62
Larceny from a Person	210	142
Shoplifting	239	176
Larceny from a Residence	109	101
Larceny of a License Plate	49	39
Larceny of Services	14	18
Miscellaneous Larceny	28	19
<b>Total Larcenies</b>	<b>1298</b>	<b>1156</b>

**Larceny in Cambridge  
Annual Totals, 1983-2002**



The following is a breakdown of the major subcategories of larceny, including any patterns or trends identified:

**Larceny from Motor Vehicle:** Larcenies from motor vehicles typically rank among the top three subcategories of the crime of larceny. Since the end of the first quarter, a dramatic increase has been recorded for this crime. However, it is important to remember that despite the sharp rise experienced during the second quarter, the total is still only slightly higher than average. The East Cambridge, Cambridgeport, West Cambridge, and Cambridge Highlands neighborhoods all experienced notable increases in incidents, which are discussed in further detail below. The Mid-Cambridge and Riverside neighborhoods experienced sharp decreases.

East Cambridge: The East Cambridge larceny from motor vehicle total in the second quarter of 2003 was fueled by numerous sprees of incidents reported in the months of April and May.

- On April 23<sup>rd</sup>, five vehicles were broken into in the area of Gore Street and Second Street. The breaks occurred between 8:00 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Entry was gained by smashing a window in each incident and guest parking passes and bags of various items were targeted. On the night of April 25<sup>th</sup>, four vehicles in the Bent Street and Second Street area were targeted. The breaks occurred during the same time as the April 23<sup>rd</sup> breaks and followed a similar pattern, i.e. windows broken and bags of items stolen.
- A third spree was reported between May 8<sup>th</sup> and May 10<sup>th</sup>. Six incidents were reported in the area of Rogers Street and First Street. Methods of entry and items targeted varied, but most of the breaks took place between 11:00 p.m. on Saturday and 1:00 a.m. on Sunday.
- On May 19<sup>th</sup>, five larcenies from motor vehicles were reported. Two occurred at the parking garage at 1 Kendall Square and two occurred at Bent and Third Streets. The incidents occurred between 12:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. and entry was gained in all of the incidents by smashing a window. Car stereos were taken in three of the incidents.
- In response to the increase in incidents in this neighborhood, the Cambridge Police Department decided to set up a decoy vehicle in mid-May in the hopes of catching the thieves responsible for the car breaks. The decoy vehicle was set up at Bent Street and Second Street on a Friday night. Shortly thereafter, two Dorchester men were witnessed smashing the decoy vehicle's window and taking a laptop from inside the car. They were arrested. No additional sprees were reported for the month of June.

Cambridgeport: No major patterns were identified in the Cambridgeport neighborhood. However, two possible sprees were reported during the second quarter. Between April 26<sup>th</sup> and April 28<sup>th</sup>, five cars parked in the area of Putnam Avenue and Allston Street were targeted. Entry was gained in various ways. Car stereos were a common target. In two of the incidents it looked as though the suspect initially intended to steal the car,

Neighborhoods	2 <sup>nd</sup> Q. 2002	2 <sup>nd</sup> Q. 2003
East Cambridge	32	70
M.I.T.	6	9
Inman/Harrington	12	14
Area 4	23	22
Cambridgeport	29	45
Mid-Cambridge	57	33
Riverside	14	8
Agassiz	18	14
Peabody	22	20
West Cambridge	14	26
North Cambridge	34	35
Cambridge Highlands	5	14
Strawberry Hill	3	8



evidenced by damage to the ignition, but later settled with stealing the car radio. Six motor vehicles were reported broken into in late June. The incidents occurred overnight, entry was gained by smashing a window, and various items were targeted.

**West Cambridge:** The increase in West Cambridge was also fueled by two sprees of incidents. In early January, five incidents were reported on the same night at various times. In three of the incidents entry was gained through an unlocked door or open window, the cars were ransacked, and loose change was targeted. Five incidents were also reported on the same night in late June. Method of entry and items targeted varied. In one incident, an unknown suspect forced entry into a parked car and stole \$3000 cash, a laptop, and a passport.

**Cambridge Highlands:** All but two of the incidents reported in the Cambridge Highlands neighborhood occurred in the parking lots of 186 and 168 Alewife Brook Parkway. Incidents were concentrated on the weekends between 8:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m. Entry was gained in most of the incidents by breaking a window, however in a few incidents door locks were forced open. Laptops and cell phones were targeted.

**Larceny from Building:** Larcenies from buildings in Cambridge increased slightly in the second quarter of 2003. As more businesses moved into Cambridge, this crime became concentrated in commercial buildings housing many different business offices. Suspects would enter the offices, posing as delivery or lost persons, and would steal items such as laptops, wallets, and cell phones. This year, the number of larcenies reported from traditional office buildings has declined. Many addresses reported multiple incidents and most of those addresses fell into five categories of non-residential buildings: health clubs, churches, hospitals, schools, and hotels. In addition, the Galleria Mall also reported multiple incidents.

- Thirty-three incidents of larceny were reported at health clubs throughout the City. The most incidents were reported at Bally's on Mass. Ave. (11 incidents), the YMCA on Mass. Ave. (6 incidents), and the Wellbridge Center on Bennett Street (6 incidents). Incidents were concentrated late in the week during patrons' lunch breaks (11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.) and after work (4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.). In all but three of the incidents, thieves stole wallets and purses, later using the victims' credit cards at various Cambridge retail establishments. The incidents reported were evenly dispersed between entry into locked lockers and entry into unlocked lockers, which means that the best way to prevent this crime is to leave cash and credit cards at home when going to the gym.
- Nineteen of the larcenies from buildings reported occurred at local schools. Eight out of the nineteen occurred at the Cambridge Rindge and Latin school. Most incidents occurred during the week when school was in session or during athletic programs after school. Wallets, purses, and backpacks were targeted in unattended offices, locked lockers, and other unattended areas.
- Fifteen thefts were reported from Cambridge churches. The majority of incidents occurred on the weekend between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. and involved guests leaving their personal belongings unattended while attending church.
- Ten incidents of larceny were reported at hospitals in the second quarter of 2003. The incidents were concentrated during the middle of the week between 5:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. Seven incidents involved the theft of property left unattended by patients and personnel and three involved the theft of hospital property.
- Eight incidents of theft were reported at area hotels. Incidents were concentrated on the weekends at various times. Items were stolen from rooms, conference rooms, and hotel hallways. Two of the incidents involved individuals breaking into and stealing from Coke vending machines at the Hotel at M.I.T. in June.

**Larceny from Person:** Typically, larcenies from persons dominate the larceny subcategories. However, in the second quarter of 2003, the larceny from person total fell into the fourth highest position. Thefts from people shopping and dining in the Harvard Square and Cambridge Galleria area drive this total. Two arrests were made in the beginning of the year, which are reviewed below, that have helped keep the larceny from person total lower than normal this year. Larcenies from person are generally easy to prevent. Remember to always keep your belongings within your control. Do not leave purses on the floor, on the back of your chair, or otherwise unattended. Do not leave wallets or cell phones in the pockets of hanging coats.

- In mid-January, a woman dining at Paparazzi's reported that her wallet had been stolen out of her purse. The woman had left her purse on the floor next to her chair while she ate. She noticed a man and a woman sitting at the table behind her. When she went to leave, she noticed that her purse had been moved and that her wallet was missing. When she called the credit card company to cancel her credit cards, she was informed



that one of her cards had already been used at the Timberland store in the Galleria Mall. A search of the Mall led to the arrest of a Tewksbury woman and a Roxbury man.

- In early February, a woman was eating at the Border Café in Harvard Square when an unknown couple came up to her and commented that her meal looked good. Later, the woman found that her purse had been stolen. The couple was later seen at the Harvard Square Cinema going through the victim's purse and trying to sell a camera on the street. They were both subsequently arrested.

# BURGLARY

*Burglary describes the unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or theft. The use of force to gain entry is not required to classify an offense as burglary. Burglary attempts are included in the total.*

**381 reported in the first half of 2002 · 247 reported in the first half of 2003**

Overall, burglary has significantly decreased from last year's total for the second quarter. Residential burglary in particular has fueled this overall decrease; evidenced by the 42 percent decline in incidents reported this year. This decline is most likely due to residential burglary patterns from last year that fortunately did not resurface this year. Commercial burglary is also slightly down from last year's second quarter total.

Burglary Type	2002	2003	% Change
Commercial Burglary	81	74	-9%
Residential Burglary	300	173	-42%
Total	381	247	-35%

## COMMERCIAL BURGLARY

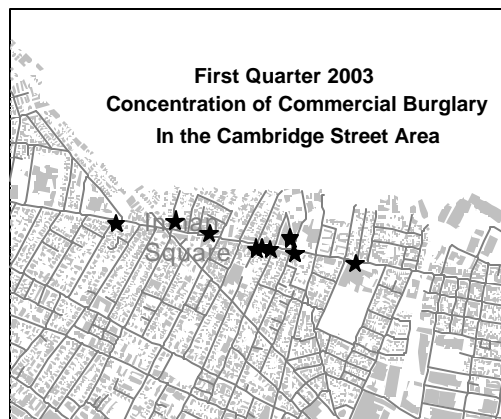
The commercial break total for the second quarter of 2003 slightly decreased from last year's total. The neighborhoods reporting the most activity were Inman Square with 13 and Harvard Square with 13. These high numbers can be explained by the concentration of incidents reported along Massachusetts Ave. and Cambridge Street. These concentrations are reviewed and mapped on the following page.

ESTABLISHMENT TYPE	2 <sup>nd</sup> Q. 2002	2 <sup>nd</sup> Q. 2003
Misc. Retail Establishments	9	23
Industrial/Construction	5	1
Business Offices	28	26
Church	1	3
Clothing Store	2	0
Bar/Restaurant	11	16
Auto Sales/Service	5	1
School	6	3
Parking Garage	2	0
Bank	4	0
Other	8	1

Geographic Breakdown of Commercial Burglaries in Cambridge			
Business District	2 <sup>nd</sup> Q. 2001	2 <sup>nd</sup> Q. 2002	2 <sup>nd</sup> Q. 2003
Galleria/East Cambridge	11	14	6
Kendall Square/MIT	4	3	6
Inman Square	6	10	13
Central Square	12	16	8
Cambridgeport/Riverside	0	3	3
Bay Square/Upper B.way	6	4	9
Harvard Square	4	15	13
1500-1900 Mass. Ave.	4	1	1
Porter Square	5	5	9
Alewife/West Cambridge	8	10	6

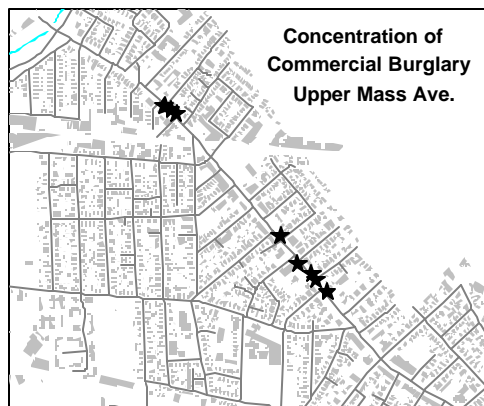
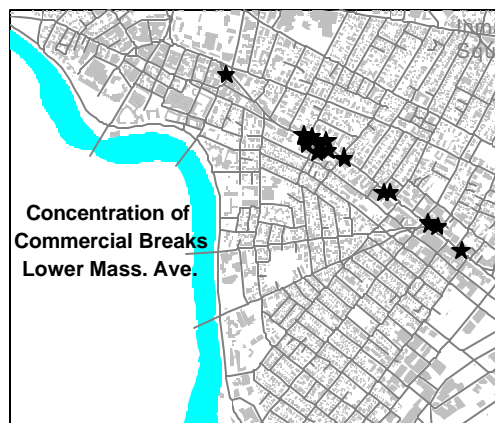
Overwhelmingly, the most common point of entry into businesses was through the rear or front doors. Suspects most often forced or pried open the doors, however there were two incidents where the perpetrators climbed through the vents to gain access. In accordance with last year's trend, business offices and retail establishments dominated the type of premise burglarized, however this year; bars/restaurants also topped the list in number of breaks reported.

Although there were no major patterns reported in the first six months of 2003, the following is a review of identified trends and clusters:



Nine commercial breaks were reported in the Cambridge Street area in the first quarter of 2003. Since the end of the first quarter, only one additional break was reported in this area, possibly indicating that it will no longer be a hotspot for breaks in the months to come. Four of the breaks reported occurred on Thursday, January 16<sup>th</sup> in the early hours of morning. The first break reported occurred around 1:00 a.m. at the Hyde Factory Outlet. An unknown suspect set off the alarm upon entering the establishment and stole cash from the business' safe. The other three breaks occurred at the Mid-West Grill and Pino's Tattoo shop, which share a common basement. In each break, an unknown suspect broke into the businesses' cash registers and stole cash.

There has been a high concentration of commercial breaks in the lower half of Massachusetts Avenue. This concentration was fueled by a spree of seven commercial breaks into businesses located at 955 Mass. Ave. on April 30<sup>th</sup>. The breaks occurred between 4:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. The same suspect was described in each of the breaks. The suspect gained entry into the businesses by prying the locks on front and side doors and once inside took cash and digital cameras. Apparently, the suspect took his time moving about the building and was seen sitting in a conference room, drinking a soda. Two breaks were also reported on March 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> between 8:00 p.m. and 12:50 a.m. at 649 Mass. Ave. An unknown suspect broke into a travel agency and the Transition House, Inc. Nothing was taken in either break, but the Transition House was ransacked.



A high concentration of commercial breaks were also reported in upper Mass. Ave. The breaks do not seem related, however two separate breaks each were reported at the Mass. Ave. Firestone and St. John's Church. In early February and early April, an unknown suspect entered the Mass. Ave. Firestone, once through an unlocked door and once by smashing a side window, and took a large number of lottery tickets. Twice in March, St. John's Church reported breaks into the church and subsequently into the church rectory. In the first break, cash and donation checks were taken. Nothing appeared missing in the second break.

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## RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY

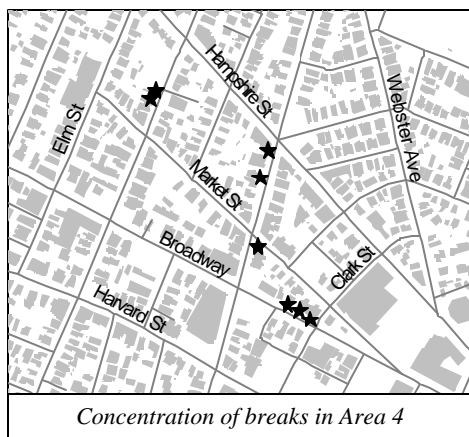
Residential burglary decreased slightly in 2002. So far this year, the total for this crime is plummeting. A decrease of 42 percent has been recorded for the first six months of this year. Neighborhoods such as Agassiz and Cambridgeport, which experienced a dramatic increase in incidents in the second quarter of 2002, are now back to normal levels. Many neighborhoods, such as the Inman/Harrington and Riverside neighborhoods, are also experiencing below normal totals.

The following is a review of sprees, patterns, or trends identified during the first six months of 2003, sorted by neighborhood:

#### East Cambridge – Museum Way

The East Cambridge total remained high this quarter because of a high concentration of incidents reported at apartment buildings on Museum Way. Ten breaks in total have been reported since the beginning of the year. Most of the breaks have occurred since April, and have been concentrated on the weekends during the late afternoon and early evening hours. In seven of the incidents, residents left their front doors unlocked, creating an irresistible opportunity for would-be burglars. Laptops and high-end luxury items such as paintings and expensive jewelry were targeted.

Neighborhood	2 <sup>nd</sup> Q. 2001	2 <sup>nd</sup> Q. 2002	2 <sup>nd</sup> Q. 2003
East Cambridge	21	25	19
MIT	0	0	1
Inman/Harrington	13	29	4
Area 4	33	22	21
Cambridgeport	20	38	19
Mid-Cambridge	43	56	29
Riverside	22	21	13
Agassiz	2	30	5
Peabody	12	30	22
West Cambridge	15	15	11
North Cambridge	12	32	24
Cambridge Highlands	0	0	2
Strawberry Hill	2	4	4



#### Area 4 – 200 Blocks of Broadway, Columbia Street, & Windsor Street

A high concentration of breaks was reported in the 200 blocks of Broadway, Columbia & Windsor Streets. The majority of the incidents occurred during the week between Tuesdays and Thursdays between 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. Laptops, jewelry, and digital cameras were targeted.

#### Mid-Cambridge – Prescott Street

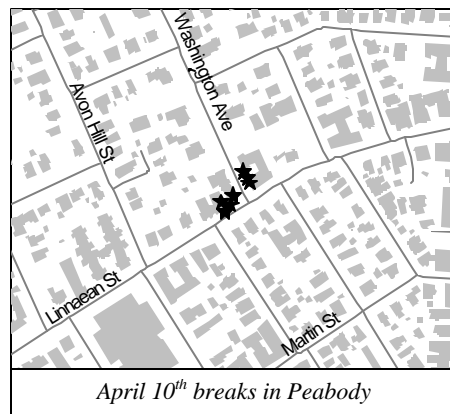
In late March, a spree of three residential burglaries was reported at an apartment building on Prescott Street. The burglaries occurred around noon on a Thursday afternoon. In each incident, the suspect pried open the front door of the apartments to gain entry and took cash and jewelry.

#### Peabody – 1800 block of Massachusetts Avenue

A spree of three breaks was reported in early February in the 1800 block of Mass. Ave. The breaks occurred during a Tuesday afternoon and entry was gained by forcing open the front doors of the apartments. In two of the breaks, the suspect got away with nothing, but in the third break a laptop and cash was taken.

#### Peabody – Linnaean Street & Washington Avenue

On April 10<sup>th</sup>, between noon and 3:00 p.m., an unknown suspect broke into seven apartments located in buildings on Linnaean Street and Washington Avenue. The suspect gained entry by forcing open either the front or rear doors of the apartments and once inside took cash and cameras.



# AUTO THEFT

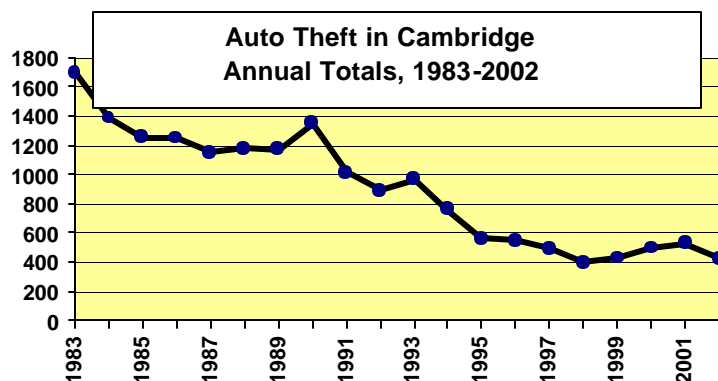
*Defined as the theft or attempted theft of a motor vehicle, this offense category includes the theft of automobiles, trucks, buses, motorcycles, motor scooters, and snowmobiles. This definition excludes the taking of a motor vehicle for temporary use by persons having lawful access.*

**209 reported in the first half of 2002 · 198 reported in the first half of 2003**

Auto thefts decreased slightly in the second quarter of 2003. Most neighborhoods experienced some fluctuation in their totals as compared to last year, however no drastic changes were identified. Thefts, as

well as recoveries, were concentrated in the lower half of the City. The Cambridgeport neighborhood reported the highest number of thefts, but its total remained at a normal level.

There were no discernable auto theft patterns in the second quarter of 2003. However, an overwhelming number of thefts have been of Honda Accords. As the chart below indicates, Hondas are at the top of the list of makes stolen in Cambridge and Honda Accords are the top model stolen in Cambridge.



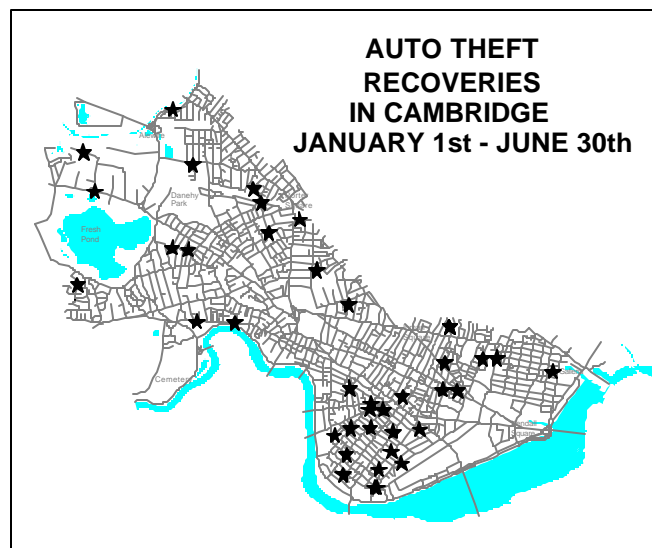
#### TOP FIVE CAR MAKE/MODELS

MAKE	NUMBER
Honda Accord	31
Honda Civic	23
Toyota Camry	14
Acura Integra	9
Toyota Corolla	5

- Between April 8<sup>th</sup> and April 9<sup>th</sup>, six Honda Accords were stolen from the West Cambridge and Peabody neighborhoods. The thefts occurred between 5:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. on a Tuesday night. Honda Accords manufactured in either 1994 or 1996 were targeted. Five of the cars stolen were recovered and of the five recoveries, four were made in Cambridge. Most of the cars only had ignition damage.

- Between April 27<sup>th</sup> and April 30<sup>th</sup>, eight Honda Accords were reported stolen. The majority of thefts occurred in the Cambridgeport neighborhood, however, the West Cambridge, Cambridge Highlands, and Agassiz neighborhoods also reported one theft each. The thefts occurred between Sunday and Wednesday between 9:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m. each night. Seven of the eight cars stolen were recovered, mostly in Cambridge, and only suffered ignition damage.

**Auto Theft Recoveries:** 115 out of the 198 cars reported stolen during the second quarter of 2003 were later recovered. As the table below indicates, the majority of motor vehicles stolen in Cambridge were also recovered in Cambridge. As the map below shows, a majority of cars recovered in Cambridge were recovered in the lower half of the City, especially in the Cambridgeport neighborhood. Boston and its neighborhoods followed a close second to Cambridge in total number of recoveries.



#### RECOVERY LOCATIONS

Cambridge	43
Boston	42
Somerville	13
Arlington	3
Medford	3
Malden	2
Methuen	1
Brockton	1
Andover	1
Chicopee	1
Dedham	1
Lynn	1
Waltham	1
Out-of-State	2

NEIGHBORHOOD	2 <sup>nd</sup> Q. 2001	2 <sup>nd</sup> Q. 2002	2 <sup>nd</sup> Q. 2003	CHANGE 02-03	% OF TOTAL
East Cambridge	29	30	19	-37%	9.5%
M.I.T. Area	7	3	3	N.C.	1.5%
Inman/Harrington	14	22	28	+27%	14%
Area 4	42	25	23	-8%	12%
Cambridgeport	35	34	33	-3%	17%
Mid-Cambridge	24	14	19	+36%	9.5%
Riverside	26	18	16	-11%	8%
Agassiz	9	11	8	-27%	4%
Peabody	20	10	12	+20%	6%
West Cambridge	10	13	18	+38%	9%
North Cambridge	14	20	14	-30%	7%
Cambridge Highlands	8	5	4	-20%	2%
Strawberry Hill	5	4	1	-75%	.5%

